Auction of Government Securities

1855. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of public borrowings brought through auctions of Government Securities for the years 2004-05 to 2008-09;

(b) whether Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) are permitted to participate in such auctions; and

(c) whether there is any ceiling prescribed for the FIIs to invest in Government Securities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The amount mobilized through auction of Government of India dated Securities for the years 2004-05 to 2008-09 is as under:

(Amount in Rs. crore)

2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
80,350	1,31,000	1,46,000	1,56,000	2,61,000

(b) Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and approved by Reserve Bank of India and any other person not resident in India, as specified by the Reserve Bank of India with the approval of the Government of India, are eligible to invest in the Government Securities.

(c) In terms of SEBI circular IMD/FII and C/29/2007 dated June 6, 2008, the Government of India has increased the cumulative debt investment limit from US$ 3.2 billion to US$ 5 billion for FII investments in Government Securities.

Measures to curb circulation of fake notes

†1856. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fake notes of Rs. 1000 and Rs. 500 denominations have come in large number;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps Government is taking to prevent circulation of fake notes;

(d) whether Government would make it mandatory for all Government, Cooperative and private banks that they install machines in the banks to identify the fake notes so that fake notes neither reach the banks nor they are given to customers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The number of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) seized by the Law enforcement

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

agencies and recovered through banks taken together constitute less than 0.001% of the total notes in circulation. The apparent reason for circulation of FICN is to make quick profit. However, many instances of fake notes coming into the country originating from across the border have come to the notice of the Intelligence Agencies.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to curb circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) in the country include stepping up of vigilance by the Border Security Force and Custom authorities to prevent smuggling of fake notes; dissemination of information on security features through print and electronic media and formation of Forged Note Vigilance Cells in all the Head Offices of the banks. Additional security features have also been incorporated in the bank notes in 2005 to make counterfeiting very difficult. To strengthen the security of bank notes further, incorporation of latest security features is underway. A High Level Committee headed by the Union Home Secretary comprising officials from central agencies and other senior police officials has been constituted to monitor and draw a comprehensive strategy to combat FICN. Similar bodies have also been set up in the States. In addition, Government of India have nominated the Central Bureau of Investigation as the Nodal Agency to monitor investigation of fake currency note cases. The RBI has also strengthened the mechanism for detection of counterfeit notes by the Banks.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. However, RBI has informed that all the currency chest maintaining branches (4299) and 210 non chest branches of commercial and private banks have been equipped with Note Sorting Machines. Banks have also been advised to install Note Sorting Machines at the sensitive and large cash handling branches so that counterfeit notes get impounded as soon as they enter the banking channel and are stopped from further circulation.

Deputations under Central Staffing Scheme

1857. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken for earmarking posts in the Higher Administrative Grade (+) for Indian Revenue Service (IT) and Indian Revenue Service (C&CE);

(b) whether it is a fact that there are posts available for this grade for the Indian Administrative Service and Indian Police Service, in the States;

(c) what action has been taken by Government on the recommendations made by the Sixth Central Pay Commission on the issue of deputations under Central Staffing Scheme of Government; and

(d) whether these recommendations have been listed in the pending items notified for further deliberations by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) In line with the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission, 6 posts of Member in the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and 5 posts of